January, 1992 with the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF) of Japan for the Project of Four-laning of Mathura-Agra Section (km. 148.33—199.66) of National Highway No. 2 in Uttar Pradesh. As per loan agreement, O.E.C.E. will lend an amount not exceeding 4855 Million Japanese Yen as principal for implementation of the above mentioned Project.

Declaration of State Roads as National Highways

3730. SHRI JAGADISH JANI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal is under Government's consideration to declare some State Roads as National Highways ;

(b) if so, the details of these State roads ;

(c) whether these State roads would be declared as National Highways during the 8th Five Year Plan period ; and

(d) if so, the steps Government have taken in that direction ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) to (d) No, Sir. Any decision about further declaration of State Roads as National Highways would be possible only after the outlay for the 8th Five Year Plan is finalised by the Planning Commission, subject to fulfilment of prescribed criteria for new National Highways, *inter-se* priority attached to each individual road on an all-India basis and availability of funds etc. It is, therefore, too early to spell out the position at this stage.

Bifurcating of DTC Routes

3731. SHRI MANMOHAN MATHUR : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that DTC has increased its fares ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that DTC has started a practice of breaking/bifurcating some of the existing routes and thus charging double fare ; and

(c) if so, whether Government proposed to stop this practice ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Pollution caused by DTC Buses

3732. SHRI P. UPENDRA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news report published in the 'Indian Express' of the 16th February, 1992 under the caption "DTC 'flouting' SC directive on pollution" ;

(b) whether it is a fact that in a recent judgement Supreme Court has directed the DTC to enlist Public Cooperation in checking the growing vehicular pollution from its bus fleet in the Capital ;

(c) the number of DTC and private buses on road plying under DTC in Delhi as on the 31st January, 1992 ;

(d) the number of buses which have been checked for pollution ; and

(e) the number of buses found emitting smoke beyond prescribed limits ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) 4374 DTC buses and 606 private buses under DTC were plying on roads as on 31-1-92.